



**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**  
**Executive Office of Health and Human Services**  
**Office of Medicaid**  
600 Washington Street  
Boston, MA 02111  
www.mass.gov/masshealth



Eligibility Operations Memo 05-05  
March 15, 2005

TO: MassHealth Eligibility Operations Staff

FROM: Russ Kulp, Director, MassHealth Operations

RE: **Medex Premium Rate Increase**

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### Introduction

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Massachusetts has received approval from the Division of Insurance on the following premium rates for all of its nongroup Medex plans: Medex Gold, Medex Silver, Medex Standard, Medex Basic, Medex Bronze, and Medex Core, effective March 15, 2005.

### Rate Changes and PACES Codes

The Medex plans, PACES codes, old and new quarterly rates, and new monthly premiums appear in the chart below. The new monthly premium is the amount allowed as a patient-paid amount (PPA) deduction. Fees for special billing arrangements that cause a premium to exceed these amounts are not allowable PPA deductions.

**Important: Correct usage of PACES codes will prevent values greater than the maximum premium amount from being entered. Workers can enter an amount that is less than the current maximum premium amount to calculate a retroactive PPA.**

Medex Plan	PACES Code	Old Quarterly Rate	New Quarterly Rate	New Monthly Premium
Gold	3	\$1,416.66	\$1,556.88	\$518.96
Silver	8	\$1,164.03	\$1,279.26	\$426.42
Standard	4	\$1,016.28	\$1,116.87	\$372.29
Basic	1	\$746.94	\$820.86	\$273.62
Bronze	2	\$415.98	\$414.30	\$138.10
Core	7	\$252.39	\$232.08	\$77.36
Core Plus	6	\$470.55	\$487.14	\$162.38

Note: Premium amounts for Medex Bronze and Medex Core were decreased.

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**System Changes**

**Community MassHealth members** with Medex coding were updated with the new premium amounts by the system. MassHealth did not recalculate their eligibility.

**Long-Term-Care MassHealth members** with Medex coding were also updated with the new premium amounts by the system. MassHealth recalculated their PPAs in March for March 2005.

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**PPA Notices**

During the month of April 2005, MassHealth will mail system-generated notices containing information about the new PPAs to affected long-term-care members, conservators, and nursing facilities.

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**Reports**

The system will issue the following two reports about the Medex premium rate increase.

- The first report will list updated long-term-care members with their old and new Medex premiums and old and new PPAs.
  - The second report will be an update-exception report that identifies members with Medex premiums on file that do not correspond to the Medex plan for which the member is coded.
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**Questions**

If you have any questions about this memo, please have your MassHealth Enrollment Center designee contact the Policy Hotline.

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